

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services



VISION

Healthy Missourians living in an environment that is safe, supportive, and conducive to a healthy lifestyle.

MISSION

The Department of Health and Senior Services protects and promotes quality of life and health for all Missourians by developing and implementing programs and systems that provide: information and education; effective regulation and oversight; quality services; and surveillance of diseases and conditions.

www.dhss.mo.gov

Director's Office

The oversight for the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services comes from the director, who is responsible for the management of the department and the administration of its programs and services. The chief operating officer assists the director in the management of the department and acts for the director in his absence. The deputy directors of the two major operating areas, health and public health, and senior services and regulation, assist the director and the chief operating officer in the management of the department. The Division of Administration, Center for Health Information Management and Evaluation, Center for Emergency Response and Terrorism; State Public Health Laboratory; the offices of Personnel, Professional Development and Strategic Planning, Public Information, Minority Health, General Counsel, Governmental Policy and Legislation, Women's Health, and Epidemiology; report to the director and chief operating officer. The Governor's Commission on Special Health, Psychological and Social Needs of Minority Older Individuals is staffed and co-chaired by the Office of Minority Health.

A State Board of Health and State Board of Senior Services advise the director regarding the priorities, policies and programs of the department and review rules promulgated by the department. The boards each consist of seven members appointed by the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Missouri Senate.

Contact: Richard C. Dunn, Director

573/751-6001

Ronald W. Cates, Chief Operating Officer

573/751-6002

The deputy director of Health and Public Health oversees the Center for Local Public Health Services, Division of Environmental Health and Communicable Disease Prevention, and Division of Community Health.

Contact: Tricia Schlechte, Deputy Director, Health and Public Health

573/751-6459

The deputy director of Senior Services and Regulation oversees the administration of programs to help ensure the health, safety, and welfare of older adults and adults with disabilities; licensure, survey and certification of health care facilities including hospitals, ambulatory surgical centers, and long-term care facilities; registration of prescribers of controlled substances; licensure and monitoring of child care facilities, emergency medical technicians, and home health and hospice entities, as well as the Senior Rx Program, State Long-Term Care Ombudsman and the Board of Nursing Home Administrators.

Contact: David S. Durbin, Deputy Director, Senior Services and Regulation

573/751-8535

Division of Administration

The Division of Administration provides fiscal and general services support to all department units. Services include budget administration, grants and contract administration, accounting and procurement, general office support, and internal auditing.

Contact: Mark Reading, Director

573/751-6014

Center for Emergency Response and Terrorism

The Center for Emergency Response and Terrorism is responsible for coordinating regional and state planning for public health emergencies and natural disasters, including biological, chemical and nuclear terrorism. Through partnerships with hospitals and other healthcare organizations, local entities including government and law enforcement agencies, and other partners, the center works to assure systems are in place to protect the health of Missourians during a public health emergency.

Contact: Pam Walker, Director

573/526-0176

Center for Health Information Management and Evaluation

The Center for Health Information Management and Evaluation is responsible for collecting, analyzing and distributing health-related data that promotes the better understanding of health problems and needs in Missouri, as well as spotlighting improvements and progress achieved in the health of Missourians. Health information collected and reported includes births and deaths, incidence of disease, incidence of injury, health manpower and hospital and nursing home information. The center publishes consumer guides on hospitals and managed care plans. This center issues certified copies of birth and death records to Missourians. The center's Office of Information Systems provides support for the department's statewide data network and computer database applications.

Contact: Garland Land, Director

573/751-6272

State Public Health Laboratory

The State Public Health Laboratory provides testing services in the fields of chemistry, environmental bacteriology, microbiology, serology and virology. Each year, more than 370,000 specimens are submitted to the lab for testing and examination. The laboratory is also responsible for approving methods and instruments and issuing permits to qualified individuals to perform tests used to enforce Missouri's law prohibiting driving while under the influence of alcohol and drugs.

Contact: Eric Blank, Director

573/751-3334

Center for Local Public Health Services

The Center for Local Public Health Services provides leadership and technical assistance to promote a strong local public health system. The center is charged with developing the needed tools, policies and strategies to strengthen public health services statewide. The center is active in defining the core public health roles and activities and in building capacity to carry them out at the local level, in developing standards of performance for local agencies, and in designing model local agencies.

Contact: Glenda Miller, Director

573/751-6170

Division of Senior Services and Regulation

The Division of Senior Services and Regulation has responsibility for a spectrum of services for Missouri citizens from child care to elder issues as well as the Family Care Safety Registry, the Central Registry Unit, Office of Special Investigations and Office of Community Independence.

The Section for Senior Services administers a coordinated, integrated home and community service delivery system to assure that the needs of Missouri's seniors are met. Through professional staff that serve each of the state's 114 counties and the city of St. Louis, personal care, homemaker/chore, nursing services, counseling, respite, and case management are made available to seniors and persons with disabilities in their homes. These home and community based services are provided to eligible persons 60 years of age or older and to adults with disabilities between the ages of 18 and 59. Generally, the services recipient must meet specific guidelines concerning economic, social, and care needs in order to be

eligible for home and community based services. Through an assessment process, the division determines the services necessary to meet the needs of each eligible person. In addition to providing these services, the section is also responsible for investigating allegations of abuse, neglect and financial exploitation impacting seniors and persons with disabilities aged 18-59.

The Section for Health Standards and Licensure is responsible for assuring that the care and services provided by hospitals, long-term care facilities, ambulatory surgical centers, home health agencies, hospices, child care providers, ambulances, paramedics, handlers of controlled substances, and 23 types of Medicare-certified health programs meet state and/or Medicare standards. Investigating concerns or complaints in any of these areas is part of the division's authority. The Section for Long-Term Care is responsible for conducting state inspections and federal surveys, and for investigating complaints regarding long-term care facilities. The section also monitors the compliance of federal requirements for the annual inspection of care and utilization review for Medicaid residents over 65 and under 21 years of age in psychiatric hospitals.

Contact: Nancie McAnagh, Director

573/522-1252

Division of Community Health

The Division of Community Health administers programs for maternal, child and family health; nutritional health; chronic disease prevention and health promotion; and programs for community health improvement.

The Section for Maternal, Child and Family Health (MCFH) promotes optimal health by providing leadership to both the public and private sectors in assessing health care needs of families and communities and in assuring that the health system responds appropriately. The section is responsible for developing policy; planning systems of care; and designing, implementing and evaluating programs to meet the health care needs of families in the state of Missouri.

The Section for Community Health Systems and Support (CHSS) assists communities, organizations, and individuals to improve their capacity to: assess, plan, and align local assets; utilize local, state and federal resources effectively; and develop programs, services, and integrated networks that support and strengthen community-based initiatives and systems for health promotion, disease prevention, and access to primary and preventive care services. Assistance is provided through training, technical assistance, peer networking, and financial resources.

The Section for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (CDPHP) promotes the health and well-being of all Missourians and reduces illness, disability, and premature death from chronic diseases. This is accomplished through three primary focus areas: decrease risk factors that contribute to prevention and control of chronic diseases and promotion of health (e.g., tobacco use, physical inactivity, poor nutrition practices); increase screening and early detection of adults with undiagnosed chronic diseases and increase the proportion of cancers diagnosed at an early stage; and improve chronic care management by increasing the proportion of adults with diabetes, cardiovascular disease, arthritis and asthma whose care meets minimum standards.

The Office of Surveillance, Evaluation, Planning and Health Information (OSEPHI) is responsible for strategic planning for the Division of Community Health, and ensures initiatives are coordinated among programs within the division, and across division lines within the department. OSEPHI takes the lead in all program evaluations, both carried out internally by DCH and DHSS staff, and evaluations performed externally through contracts. This office provides information about programs, services, and resources, and engages in a wide variety of health information initiatives to promote healthy lifestyles and to effect individual and community attitudes and behaviors regarding health. This office analyzes surveillance data, such as BRFSS and the Cancer Registry at regular intervals to track trends, and provides consultation to programs regarding application of surveillance data for program and policy development. OSEPHI is responsible for all data collection and analysis, and for tracking objective measures for budget documents and performance measures and indicators for reporting required by federal partners and granting organizations. This office performs needs assessments, and makes recommendations based on those assessments. OSEPHI coordinates efforts in grant development, and takes the lead on annual grants such as the MCH Block Grant, the PHHS Block grant, and the SSDI grant.

Contact: Paula Nickelson, Director

573/751-6174

Division of Environmental Health and Communicable Disease Prevention

Communicable diseases and diseases caused by environmental hazards are major public health concerns in Missouri. The Division of Environmental Health and Communicable Disease Prevention is the principal unit involved in the surveillance and investigation of the cause, origin and method of transmission of these diseases and conditions. Included in the division are the following sections/office:

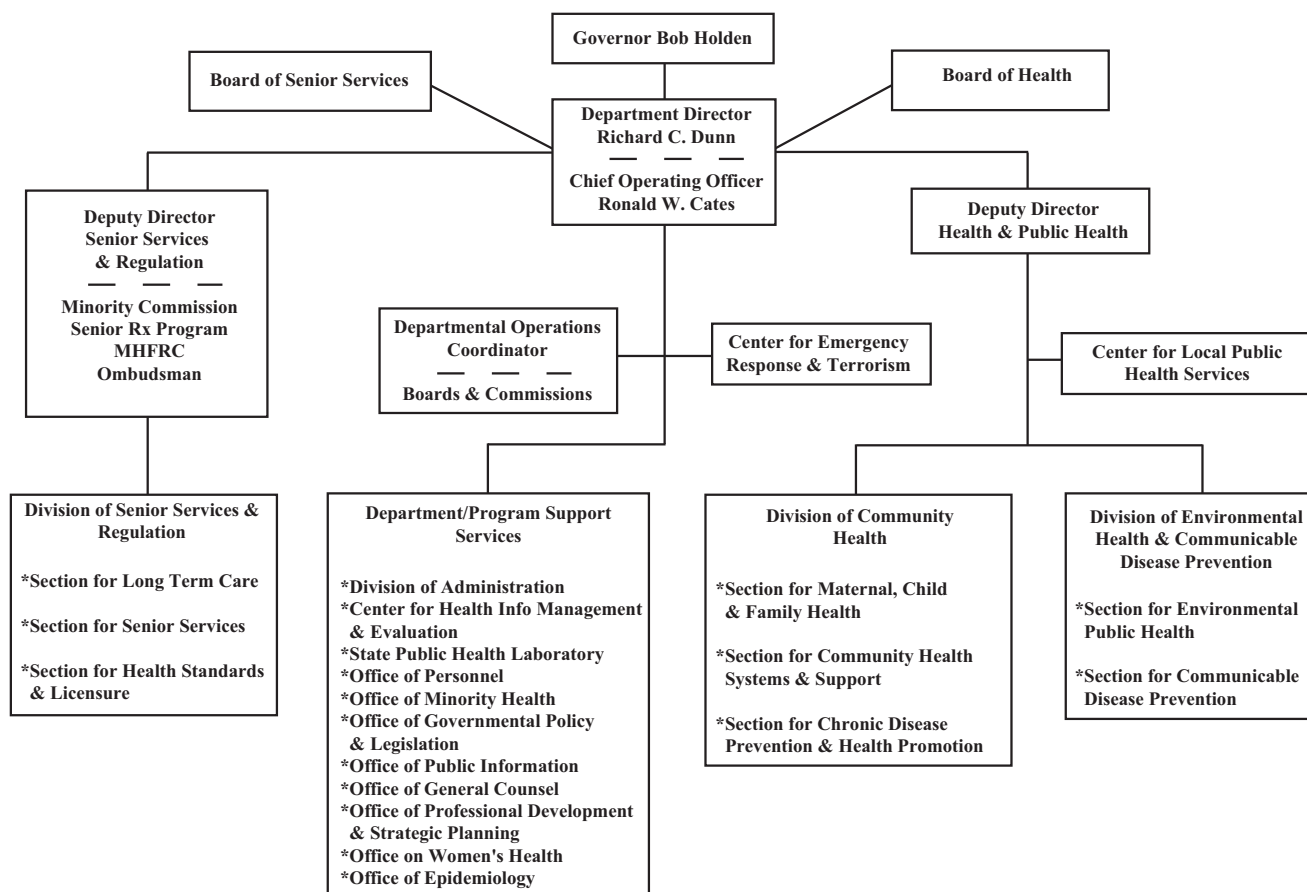
The Section for Environmental Public Health is involved in the investigation and prevention of diseases related to the environment and administration of environmental sanitation programs in accordance with Missouri statutes. The section's efforts focus on diseases associated with exposure to chemical, bacteriological, and physical agents in the environment and in food and water.

The Section for Communicable Disease Prevention focuses on disease prevention and control related to communicable diseases, including vaccine-preventable diseases, tuberculosis, zoonoses (diseases humans contract from animals), sexually transmitted diseases, HIV/AIDS and emerging infectious diseases such as SARS, Monkeypox and West Nile Virus.

The Office of Surveillance tracks and documents occurrence and distribution of communicable, vaccine preventable, sexually transmitted, and environmentally induced diseases in Missouri — as well as potential intentional introduction of disease by terrorist agents — through a comprehensive statewide surveillance system. The office works closely with the sections in the division to assure that when diseases/conditions have been detected through the surveillance, the sections are alerted to begin the investigation and control measures. The Office of Surveillance contains the GIS program, including the Missouri Emergency Response GIS (MERGIS) system, to provide maps and data for decision makers, disease investigation staff and first responders.

Contact: Bryant McNally, Director

573/751-6080



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